

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 299627
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 299627

FOR HENRY MILLER FROM UNA

FOL RPT CONAKRY 2326 ACTION SECSTATE 13 DEC 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 2326

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: SHUM, GV

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS PROVISION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

LEGISLATION: GUINEAN REACTION

REF: A. STATE 287788

B. STATE 282352

1. ON DECEMBER 10 EMBASSY SENT COPY OF SECTION 116 TEXT (REFTELS)
TO MFA UNDER DIPLOMATIC NOTE "FOR INFORMATION". AMBASSADOR
LEFT COPY WITH ISMAEL TOURE, PRESIDENT'S HALF-BROTHER,
SAME DAY (SEPTEL).

2. MFA'S ACTING DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS DANIEL LOPIS
SUMMONED DCM TO MFA DECEMBER 12 FOR CLARIFICATION. LOPIS
SAID FONMIN FILY CISSOKO HAD WITHHELD NOTE
FROM PRESIDENT'S IN-BOX TO AVOID PREMATURE REACTION IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 299627

ORDER TO FIRST GET BACKGROUND FROM EMBASSY AND AVOID
COMPLICATIONS IN CURRENTLY IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. DURING HOUR-LONG SESSION WHICH FOLLOWED, DCM OUTLINED
HUMAN-RIGHTS FACTOR AS PERHAPS DECISIVE ELEMENT IN CON-
TINUED EXPANSION OF COOPERATION WITH GUINEA. DCM
DESCRIBED U.S. POLITICAL CONTEXT SHAPING RELATIONS AS

INCREASINGLY AFFECTED BY GUINEA'S POOR IMAGE IN WAKE OF ILHR REPORT AND ALATA BOOK. THIS WAS COLD REALITY WHICH BOTH SIDES--U.S. AND GUINEAN--HAD TO FACE AND COPE WITH RESPONSIBLY. EMBASSY PROVIDED SECTION 116 TEXT VIA NOTE TO INFORM GOG BETTER OF IMPOSITION OF SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE CONDITIONS WHICH U.S. AID POLICY HENCEFORTH HAD TO TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT. KENAF PROJECT IN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND WAS RECENT INSTANCE IN WHICH U.S. HAD TO ABSTAIN, PARTIALLY BECAUSE OF HUMAN-RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS MARKED OUT BY CONGRESS. U.S. REALIZED GUINEA AND U.S. HAD DIFFERING CONCEPTS AND PRIORITIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND ECONOMIC ORDER. U.S. IS NOT KEEN ON CONVERTING OR PROSELYTIZING GUINEA, SPLITTING IDEOLOGICAL HAIRS, OR SCORING DEBATING POINTS PUBLICLY. WHAT IS REQUIRED IS RATHER AN EXPANDED, CONFIDENTIAL DIALOGUE AIMED AT JOINTLY EXAMINING WAYS OF IMPROVING GUINEA'S IMAGE, BETTER INFORMING U.S. OF GUINEA'S HUMAN-RIGHTS PRACTICES, AND FACING UP TO NEW SITUATION CREATED BY U.S. LAW AND PUBLIC OPINION. DCM SAID EMBASSY HAD ALREADY INITIATED THIS DIALOGUE WITH PRIMD MINISTER BEAVOGUI AND ISMAEL TOURE AND WOULD WELCOME MFA'S INPUT. DCM STRESSED THAT PROBLEM WILL NOT GO AWAY AND WILL INEXORABLY BECOME MORE ACUTE AND POSSIBLY UNCONTROLLABLE IF REAL PROGRESS NOT MADE SOON. ALTHOUGH PL-480 AND AID PROJECT ARE GOING AHEAD, PROMISING POTENTIAL FOR GREATER FUTURE COOPERATION MAY

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PAGE 03 STATE 299627

GO UNTAPPED UNLESS A COMMON APPROACH IS DEvised.

4. LOPIS SAID HE FOUND DCM'S EXPLANATION "SATISFACTORY". MFA SHARED EMBASSY'S CONCERN TO CONSULT EFFECTIVELY AND CONFIDENTIALLY BEFORE PROBLEMS ESCAPE CONTROL AND SPOIL RELATIONS. HUMAN RIGHTS IS CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT. GUINEA RECOGNIZES THAT INTERNATIONAL NORMS OF MORALITY DO OR OUGHT TO EXIST AND THAT VIOLATIONS (E.G. WAR CRIMES) OCCUR. GUINEA PUTS ACCENT INTERNALLY ON "MASS" OR "PEOPLES" RIGHTS RATHER THAN WESTERN "INDIVIDUAL" RIGHTS BY VIRTUE OF ITS SOCIETY'S UNDERDEVELOPMENT, MULTI-ETHNIC FRAGILITY, AND INSECURE POSITION INTERNATIONALLY. GUINEA'S POSITION HAS BEEN STATED AT U.N. AND ELSEWHERE. GUINEA PRIVATELY DEPLORES AFRICAN HUMAN-RIGHTS DEVIATIONS SUCH AS BOKASSA'S DIVERSION OF FUNDS FOR PERSONAL AGGRANDIZEMENT. GUINEA IS ACTIVELY AND SINCERELY SEEKING BETTER RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND DESIRES FRANK DIALOGUE ON ISSUES WHICH COULD IMPEDE THIS. LOPIS SAID HE WOULD REPORT U.S. VIEWS IN DETAIL TO FONMIN CISSOKO AND THOUGHT LATTER WILL COMPREHEND NEED FOR MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE.

5. COMMENT: SESSION WITH LOPIS CONTINUES EMBASSY EFFORTS,

WITHIN "COOPERATION DIALOGUE", TO SENSITIZE KEY LEVELS
OF GOG THAT THERE IS REAL PROBLEM OVER GUINEA'S HUMAN-
RIGHTS PERFORMANCE AND TO PRESS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE,
TANGIBLE RESULTS. LOPIS SEEMED TO HINT THAT UNLESS
DIALOGUE IS CAREFULLY WROUGHT, PRESIDENT TOURE'S REACTION
MAY BE UNPREDICTABLE AND EXPLOSIVE IF MISSTEPS OCCUR
ALONG THE WAY.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE299627
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BJSHARP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770468-0540
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771246/aaaabmun.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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